(c) A Special Recruitment Drive has been undertaken to fill up the backlog of reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as on 31-3-91 in Ministries/Departments of the Central government.

Allocation of Financial Resources to Gram panchayats

1041. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to be state:

(a) whether the government propose to make statutory provisions for allocating financial resources to Gram Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to strengthen the financial and executive powers of the Gram Panchayats?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The necessary provisions for Allocation of Financial Resources to Gram Panchayats and for strengthening the financial and executive powers of the Gram Penchants are included in the Constitution (Seventy-Second Amendment) Bill 1991 introduced in the Lok sabha.

Norms for Allocation of Funds Under J.R.Y. in Terms If Labour and material

1042. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the norms followed to allocate funds for projects under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana in terms of labour and material;

(b) whether the Government are aware that due to high material cost in hilly and backward areas, projects under Jawahar Rojgar Yojana have become impractical; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken for allocating funds for the projects as per the cost of material in a particular area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Funds under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are allocated to states/UTs on the basis of proportion of rural poor in a State/UT to the total rural poor in the country and not projectwise in terms of labour and material.

(b) and (c). As the primary objective of JRY is employment generation, it has been laid down in the guidelines that not less than 60% of the funds under the Yojana shall be spent on the wages of unskilled workers.

The secondary objective of the JRY is to strive for creation of sustained employment by strengthening rural economic infrastructure and also assets in favour of rural poor for their direct and continuing benefits. According to the guidelines, all rural works which result in creation of durably productive community assets can be taken up under the Yojana. Durable community assets which are productive, include works like social forestry soil and water conservation works, water harvesting structures, minor irrigation works, such as construction of community irrigation wells,. construction, improvement and deepening of intermediary and main drains and field channels, flood protection and drainage works construction/renovation of village tanks, land improvements,etc. These are highly labour-intensive activities. The percentage share of material component in such works, is much less than the permissible 40 per cent. If, however, the implementing authority decides to take up works having share of material component